

Blakeney Sailing Club Autumn briefing 2011

Sailing

It has been a mixed year for sailing. A bright, dry and warm spring gave way to a somewhat mixed summer with some unusual winds followed by a very warm autumn. There was too much wind for the international 14 meeting and there was too little for the North West Norfolk Week. The first day of the Blakeney Regatta had good weather but the second day it was too windy and racing was postponed until the following weekend. The wind blew all week until an hour before the start whereupon it disappeared. The Morston Regatta had good conditions and a lot of participants took to the water. The midweek racing week saw favourable sailing conditions and a good number of boats taking part. The final weekend sailing in mid October concluded a very pleasant autumn's sailing.

Fun week/social activities

The fun week had a variety of social sailing activities around the harbour as well as a number of non sailing events, these included Bike rides, walks and tennis as well as the inaugural Cockles V. BSC cricket match which, I am pleased to report, BSC just won. For the first time we had a golf tournament, during the afternoon of one of the race week days, which was well attended. The annual Hog Roast filled the Cley Village Hall to capacity and the raffle, which had some very generous prizes provided by local businesses, raised a record amount of money for the club.

Engines

As I reported in the last newsletter, thieves stole our two outboard engines in early June. We made a successful claim on our insurance and have replaced one of the engines, and, whilst we are working out how best to secure the engines in the long term, Alan Robinson has very kindly temporarily loaned us another engine. Both engines are currently being removed from the rescue boats after use. On a more positive note the new racing mark buoys have proven to be a great success and we will be purchasing more for next season.

Sailing Schedule of 2012

Now that the tide table has been published for next year we can begin to organise the sailing schedule for 2012. As you know the schedule needs to take into account the times and heights of the tides but we also need to ensure that we get a good balance between the need to man the rescue boat, the committee boat and to provide sufficient racing and social sailing for all members. This, as you might imagine, is not easy but Sean Moore, who is addressing this issue, is keen to get your input. sremooore@hotmail.com

One thing we would like in the 2012 season is to have more people volunteering to help with either the officer of the Day duties or helping with the rescue boat. For those of you who may not feel happy to take responsibility for either of these roles we will ensure that you are teamed with someone who is experienced. Please let me know if you are able to help Joejcarr@hotmail.com

Items of interest

I mentioned in the autumn briefing 2010 that an organisation had been set up to establish Marine Conservation Zones in the North Sea. They have recently published an 800+ page report with recommendations about conservation zones. Pages 575 to 626 deal with conservation zones in and around Blakeney harbour http://www.netgainmcs.org/docs/Net_Gain_Final_Rec_v1_1.pdf some of these may impinge on areas that you sail.

Whilst in Devon in September I got a chance to watch the Americas cup sailing race that was being held in Plymouth harbour this short video gives you an idea of the spectacle. [America's Cup | Capsize Club - Smashing Sunday](#)

Steve Soanes has again offered to make some calendars for those who are interested. If you would like one, or several, they will cost £6.50 each plus £1.00 P&P (Cheques made out to BSC) and you will need to tell Steve by the 1st of December steve@soanessigns.co.uk

Dinghy Park

Just to remind everyone, you will need to remove your boats, stakes and trailers, from the Dinghy Park by the end of November unless you notify Tracey Bayfield at the Parish Council. The Carnser clear-up is at 10am on the 11th of December. All helpers are welcome – mulled wine and mince pies will be on offer. It has been suggested that we all meet for lunch at the White Horse at 1.30pm (after the committee meeting) Please let me know if you would like to come so we can book places at the White Horse. joejcarr@hotmail.com. I look forward to seeing you on the Carnser.

Joe Carr
Commodore